

D R A F T
BOARD OF STATE HISTORY MEETING

February 19, 2009
Rio Grande Depot Board Room
1:00 – 2:30 P.M.

ATTENDANCE:

Michael Homer, chair
Martha Bradley, vice chair
Chere Romney
Greg Thompson
Michael Winder
Ron Coleman
Claudia Berry
Bob McPherson
Maria Garciaz
Max Smith
Scott Christensen

Staff:

Palmer DePaulis, Executive Director, Department of Community and Culture
Allyson Isom, Deputy, Department of Community and Culture
Phil Notarianni
Wilson Martin
Cory Jensen
Susan Whetstone
Lynette Lloyd

WELCOME

Michael Homer welcomed everyone to the meeting. He stated that Martha Bradley would conduct the meeting due to a conflicting meeting at the Utah State Legislature. He introduced Phil Notarianni for further Division announcements.

BOARD REAPPOINTMENTS

Phil announced the Governor's decision to reappoint Michael Homer as chair for another four years. The following board members have also been reappointed: Max Smith, Scott Christensen, Michael Winder, Claudia Berry, and Martha Bradley. All of the appointments are contingent upon the approval of the Senate.

Phil introduced Susan Whetstone, the photo collection curator at State History. She will be retiring February 26. She has been an incredible asset to State History. No one knows the photo collection quite like Susan. One of her many responsibilities has been to select and prepare historical photographs from State History's collection that highlights some aspect of the life of each legislator on the Appropriation Subcommittee. She also serves as the secretary of the Utah Committee on Geographic Names, a committee created by a Governor's Executive Order. Wilson Martin also stated that Susan's diligent work and research on historic photographs of the State Capitol building, the Governor's Mansion, the Cathedral of the Madeleine, the City County building and many more, have made historical preservation in Utah one of the highlights of the nation. Several Board members expressed their gratitude for the excellent work Susan has provided throughout the years. She has been a wonderful colleague, always kind and willing to

work hard to make projects successful. State History will miss Susan, however the staff is very happy for her and her future adventures in North Carolina. The board is invited to attend a reception in her honor, Thursday, February 26, from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. in the Zephyr Room at the Rio Grande Depot.

Martha Bradley introduced Allyson Isom who will give the Board an update on the Legislature. Phil also recognized Palmer DePaulis and thanked both Ally and Palmer for all their support.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Ally expressed her appreciation to State History and thanked them for the good job they do each year with the legislative presentation. She went on to explain the budget cuts for this year and the reality of the deep cuts affecting personnel. State History is doing a great job in re-evaluating their statutory requirements and finding ways to streamline efficiencies.

The Department was pleased to know that the digitization project is priority number one for the Appropriation Subcommittee and State History has had a big role in these projects. There are several projects not complete and the Department is seeking nonlapsing authority for the digitization project funding. Ally handed out the bill tracker that is distributed throughout the Department. She also handed out a brief on some of the bills that affect the Department and highlighted a few.

HB 236 DCC Grants - provides certain DCC boards submit a prioritized capital facility grants request to the Governor and Legislature, allows DCC divisions to retain up to 3% of independent grants for technical assistance and administrative overhead costs.

HB 272 Utah Scenic Byway Designation Amendments. The bill modifies the Designation of State Highways Act by amending scenic byway designation provisions.

MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 20, 2008 BOARD MEETING

Greg Thompson made a motion to approve the November 20, 2008 minutes. Max Smith seconded the motion and it passed with unanimous vote. Scott Christensen abstained because he was unable to attend the November meeting.

SUBCOMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS FOR 2009

Martha Bradley asked the Board to review last year's subcommittees. She asked if Board members would continue to serve on the committees and she invited other Board members to join any of the subcommittees listed below.

BEST ARTICLE COMMITTEE:

This committee reviews articles appearing in a publication other than *Utah Historical Quarterly*.

Michael Winder, Chair
Chere Romney
Ron Coleman
Bob McPherson
Scott Christensen

BEST BOOK COMMITTEE:

This committee reviews best books written on Utah history for the previous year (2008). A list of the books that will be considered was handed out to the committee.

Michael Homer, Chair
Chere Romney
Phil Notarianni
Craig Fuller
Kent Powell
Greg Thompson
John Sillito
Curt Bench

Committee to propose names of Fellows and Honorary Life membership

Bob McPherson
Martha Bradley
Kent Powell
Greg Thompson
Phil Notarianni
Michael Homer

Ron Coleman made the motion to approve the committees and members from last year. Greg Thompson seconded the motion and it was passed with unanimous vote.

NATIONAL REGISTER NOMINATIONS

Please refer to the following criteria:

- A) Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B) Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C) Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.

The Forest Dale Historic District, presented by Cory Jensen. Cory gave a little background on the nomination. According to Section 106, if the federal agency undertakes a project and the project has an impact on historic or prehistoric resources, they have to take into account the impact on those resources. The work undertaken on I-80 off ramps impacts historic resources in the Forest Dale area. The preservation office negotiated with the federal agency to find a useful way to mitigate the resource through a historic district nomination for this area. The area had already been researched and a reconnaissance survey completed above Ninth East.

Forest Dale Historic District is locally significant under Criteria A and C for three primary reasons: 1) its key association with streetcar development in Salt Lake City; 2) its unique incorporation of a subdivision as an independent town; and 3) its architectural merit. Under Criterion A, the district is significant for its association with suburban (streetcar) development in Salt Lake City. The original Forest Dale subdivision, most of which is encompassed by the district, was one of the first and largest platted subdivisions within the Big Field plat of Salt Lake City. Unlike most other nearby subdivisions, which were platted around the same time by out-of-state developers and non-Mormon businessmen, the Forest Dale Historic District is a rare example of suburban development by active and high-ranking individuals of the LDS Church, who effectively acted in the face of the church leaderships' disapproval of Mormons being

involved in activities such as land speculation. Early residents of the subdivision were hand selected (through invitations to purchase property) by George M. Cannon and his partners, and they were frequently members in high-standing within the church and the broader LDS community. This is in sharp contrast to other contemporary and subsequent subdivisions in the area, which were settled on the premise of simple financial transactions and involved no particular effort to influence or control the social or religious complexion of the neighborhood. The incorporation of the subdivision as a town is also unique among other subdivisions of the period, which remained as simple neighborhoods within the corporate boundary of Salt Lake City.

The Forest Dale subdivision itself is significant in the overall history of streetcar subdivisions in Salt Lake City and reflects the relationship between the availability of mass transit and the success of the development. The incorporation of the interurban street car system as a necessary and integral component of the subdivision paved the way for future development of streetcar suburbs in the surrounding area (e.g., the many subdivisions of the West Sugar House area: Sixth East, Wilmington, Country Club Place, Adamson, Fairmont Springs Addition, etc.), thereby establishing a distinctive pattern of community expansion for the southeastern portion of Salt Lake City. Forest Dale and the incorporation of transit into its planning were influential in the development of contemporary, subsequent, and nearby subdivisions.

The Forest Dale Historic District also contains an impressive collection of late-Victorian era residences that render the district significant under Criterion C. Further, the building stock represents the work of numerous architects and designers, including both locally trained draftsmen and nationally practiced architects, such as Taylor Woolley. The residences of the neighborhood, the vast majority of which are considered contributing resources within the district, are among the most well-preserved collection of turn-of-the-century residential architecture in the Salt Lake Valley, lending visual cohesiveness to the district and distinguishing it from the surrounding neighborhoods. The patterning of architectural types and styles on the landscape within the district clearly demonstrates how the Forest Dale area was developed over time. One residence within the district, the George M. Cannon house at 720 East Ashton Avenue, is individually listed on the National Register of Historic Places for its architecture.

The overall period of significance for the Forest Dale Historic District extends from 1890 to 1959. This time frame, and its relevance to the district, is best understood when divided into four contextual eras based upon significant events and trends within the area's history. These four eras are bracketed by two other eras that, while not directly tied to the significance of the district, establish the broader context for those periods. The Big Field and Agricultural Use (1847 to 1889); Speculation and Platting the Subdivision (1890 to 1900); Forest Dale Town 1901 to 1912); Streetcars and Suburban Development (1913 to 1929); Urban Growth and Infill (1930 to 1960); and Interstate 80 and Neighborhood Decline (1961 to 2008).

A motion was made by Michael Winder to accept the Forest Dale Historic District nominated to the National Register of Historic Places. Scott Christensen seconded the motion and it passed with unanimous vote.

DIVISION UPDATE

Phil passed out State History's legislative fact sheet presented to the Appropriation Subcommittee. It summarizes the work and success State History accomplished in FY 2008. He reviewed the information on the balanced scorecard and it will replace the quarterly reports. The division prepares an annual report at the end of the fiscal year in July. The balanced scorecard is directly linked to employee performance plans and is important information for

budget preparation each year for the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget. This has been a good tool to manage and measure Division initiatives.

Our main three digitization projects proposed three years ago are now complete. Our fourth project, digitizing historic site information online, will be affected by the decision of the Legislature to approve nonlapsing authority. This project will give more complete information to the public through the historic sites database.

Currently the Division's budget cut will amount to approximately \$287,500. That could equate to possibly four full time positions. Susan's retirement and other monies may affect the final outcome. Phil and Wilson have been working with the Department to find ways to make adjustments. Administration has developed a criteria based on federal and state mandates, balanced scorecard and strategic planning information to determine a plan that looks at Division functions in a more objective business assessment. This planning process will also help make decisions for the future.

Who We Are: A Strategic Plan for Utah's Cultural Resources 2009-2016

Wilson Martin explained that the State Historic Preservation program requires that the Division produce a statewide strategic plan for federal and state agencies dealing with historic preservation. There is a fusion of what the Division and state, federal and other partners/organizations accomplish. Our responsibilities in this plan will be included in our final Division wide strategic plan to be completed in the next couple of months.

Maria Garcia asked how the Strategic Plan is measured. Wilson responded that the measures are included in the federal grant application completed each year.

Phil reported to the Board State History's participation with the following activities also listed on the website:

- **Helen Papanikolas Remembering the Legacy March 5, 2009**

The symposium was put together by several sponsors including State History to commemorate the life of Helen Papanikolas.

- **A New Birth of Freedom 1809 - 1909 Abraham Lincoln's Bicentennial**

This publication is by the National Lincoln Bicentennial Committee. Michael Homer is the state's representative.

- **Wallace Stegner Fourteenth Annual Symposium, March 6-7, Marriot University Park Hotel**

The keynote speaker, is Wendell Berry, "A Reading in Honor of Wallace Stegner."

- **Utah Prehistory Week – May 2 – 9, 2009**
- **Open House Utah State History – Saturday, May 2, 10:00 to 3:00 at the Rio Grande Depot**

Phil handed out the 2009 prehistory posters to the Board.

- **57th Annual State History Conference – September 17 - 19**

Phil invited Board members to attend the planning meeting for the 57th Annual Utah State History Conference Meeting on Wednesday, **March 25**, from 3:00 – 4:00 in the Zephyr room at the Rio Grande Depot. The Conference will tie into the National Broadcast, *We Shall Remain*. KUED will have five thirty minute segments on Utah tribes that will follow the National Broadcast beginning Monday, April 13. The keynote speaker for the Annual Conference will be David Hurst Thomas, curator at the American Museum of Natural History. He has written several text books on Archaeology.

- **Utah History Award Nominations**

Phil handed out the form that is also available online. State History's Annual Awards recognize individuals and groups who have made a significant contribution to history, prehistory, or historic preservation in the state of Utah. We invite nominations of persons or organizations who have given extraordinary service or completed outstanding projects. Winners will be honored at the 57th Annual Utah State History Conference. **Nominations are due by May 15, 2009.**

The nomination form is located at <http://history.utah.gov>

- **USS Utah - The 100th Anniversary**

An exhibit in the State Capitol rotunda honors the USS Utah. State History has loaned several artifacts for the exhibit.

- **Call For Papers – Due June 3**

The Annual Conference will focus on the PBS and KUED We Shall Remain series. Proposals should include a one-page description of the topic and its significance, any audio visual needs, mailing address and telephone number participants, and a one or two paragraph biography of each participant. Proposals for individual papers or sessions should be submitted by June 3, 2009. Proposals can be mailed to Kent Powell at Utah State Historical Society, 300 S. Rio Grande Street, Salt Lake City, 84101-1182, or emailed to kpowell@utah.gov. For further information please call Kent Powell at (801) 533-3520.

- **StoryCorps – March 26 – May 2, 2009**

In partnership with [KCPW](#), the West MobileBooth will stop in Salt Lake City, UT. The materials produced will be deposited in the Research Center.

ADJOURN

Greg Thompson made the motion to adjourn. Max Smith seconded the motion and it passed with unanimous vote. Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY, June 18, 2009 in the Rio Grande Board Room